

STATEMENT OF THE FOREIGN OFFICE SPOKESMAN CONCERNING  
THE SETTLEMENT OF THE QUESTION PERTAINING TO THE  
BRITISH AND FRENCH CONCESSIONS IN TIENTSIN

June 20, 1940

With regard to the question relative to the British Concession in Tientsin negotiations were continued following the conclusion of the agreement on principles between the Foreign Minister, Mr. Hachiro Arita, and the British Ambassador, Sir Robert L. Craigie, in July of last year. Although numerous obstacles were encountered, these negotiations finally resulted in an agreement of views between Japan and Great Britain, and the necessary procedures for the confirmation of the said agreement were completed yesterday, June 19, between Foreign Minister Arita and Ambassador Craigie. Moreover, as the result of conversations with the French Ambassador, Mr. Charles Arsene-Henry, an understanding on principles similar to that between Japan and Great Britain was reached between Japan and France and at the same time an agreement was also effected between them concerning the questions relating to the maintenance of peace and order, and to silver and currency.

It is our firm belief that, as the result of the understandings just reached the British and French Concessions will cease virtually to be abused for the machinations of anti-Japanese elements by virtue of cooperation of the concession authorities with Japanese authorities toward the maintenance of peace and order in the British and French Concessions. As regards the result of settlement of the silver and currency questions, although it can not be considered wholly satisfactory, it will contribute not only toward the relief work among the Chinese in North China but also toward the economic stability of the Tientsin district.

The settlement at this time of the Tientsin question may do no more than create an impression that what ought to have been done. The fact cannot be overlooked however, that this question has been an impediment to a settlement of the questions of a broader and more urgent character. There are many matters in which Japan wants the cooperation of Great Britain and France in order to fulfill her national aspirations regarding East Asia. We expect that the attitudes of Great Britain and France as manifested in connection with solution of Tientsin question will be more emphatically reflected in connection with the various other problems.

Def. Doc. No. 1296

C E R T I F I C A T E

Statement of Source and Authenticity

I, HAYASHI Kaoru, Chief of the Archives Section,  
Japanese Foreign Office, hereby certify that the document  
hereto attached in English consisting of four pages and en-  
titled "Statement of the Foreign Office Spokesman Concerning  
the Settlement of the Question Pertaining to the British and  
French Concessions in Tientsin, June 20, 1940", is an exact and  
true copy of an official document of the Japanese Foreign Office.

Certified at Tokyo,  
on this 15th day of April, 1947

K. Hayashi  
Signature of Official

Witness: K. Urabe

Ref Doc. 1296

Not used

一六 天津英佛租界問題解決ニ際スル須知情報部長談

(昭和十五年六月二十日)

天津英國租界問題ニ付テハ昨年七月有田外務大臣「クレイギー」英國大使同ノ原則的ノ了解ガ成立シテ以來幾多ノ紆餘曲折アル交渉ヲ重ネタル上最近日英間ニ意見ノ合致ヲ見タノデ昨十九日有田外務大臣「クレイギー」英國大使トノ間ニ右意見ノ合致ヲ確認スル手續ヲ了スルニ至ツタ、且「アーンリ」佛國大使トノ話合ノ結果同日佛國側トノ間ニモ日英間ト同様ナ原則的ノ了解ノ成立ト共ニ治安、現銀及通貨ノ諸問題ニ付意見ノ一致ヲ見ルニ至ツタノデアール。

今般成立シタ了解ノ結果天津英佛租界治安維持ノ爲租界當局ガ我官憲ト十分協力スルコトニ依リ租界ガ抗日分子ト策動ニ濫用サレルコトハ殆ド跡ヲ絶ツニ至ルモノト確信スル又銀及通貨ノ兩問題解決ノ結果未ダ十分トハ言ヘスガ北部中國難民ノ救済ガ行ハルルノミナラズ天津地方ノ經濟的安定ニモ寄與シ得ルコトトナツタノデアール。

現下ノ事態ニ於テ天津租界問題ノ解決ハ當然爲サルベキモノガ爲サレタトノ感ヲ與フルニ過ギヌガ、此ノ問題アルガ爲ニ、ヨリ廣汎ナ且ヨリ緊切ナル問題ノ解決ガ阻マレテ居ツタコトハ見逃シテハナラナイ、



Ref. Doc. 1296

日本ガ東亞ニ關スル國民的要望ヲ達成センガ爲英佛  
ノ同調ヲ求ムベキ問題ハ多々アルノデアルガ天津問  
題解決ニ示サレタ英佛ノ意圖ガ他ノ問題ニ付テモヨ  
リ強ク反映セラレシコトヲ期待スルモノデアル。

Ref. Doc 1296 (cont)

文書ノ出所竝ニ成立ニ關スル證明書（三號）

自分事務ハ外務省文書課長ノ職ニ居ル者ナル處、茲ニ添附セラレタル日本語ニ依ツテ書カレ二頁ヨリ成ル天津英租界問題解決ニ際スル須磨情報部長談（昭和十五年六月二十日）ト題スル書類ハ日本政府（外務省）ノ保管ニ係ル公文書ノ正確ニシテ眞實ナル寫シナルコトヲ證明ス

昭和二十二年四月十五日

於東京

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右署名捺印ハ自分ノ面前ニ於テ爲サレタリ

同日於同所

立會人

浦部勝馬印